

Main Stacks

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2005

BRINGING KNOWLEDGE TO LIFE



OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION 2005 ANNUAL REPORT



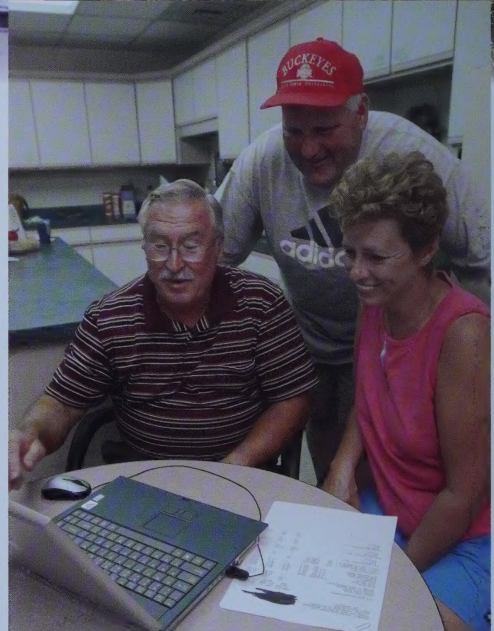
Engaging people to strengthen their lives and communities through research-based educational programming.

www.extension.osu.edu

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INFORMATION YOU CAN TRUST

From 4-H youth club members to Master Gardener volunteers, from rural Appalachia to downtown Cleveland, OSU Extension offers solutions to better your life. With OSU Extension, you have direct access to information and research from the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, other OSU colleges, and other universities.



BETTER LIVES

BETTER BUSINESSES

BETTER COMMUNITIES

We work with young children and the aged, farmers and business owners, community leaders and elected officials, to make Ohio great.



OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

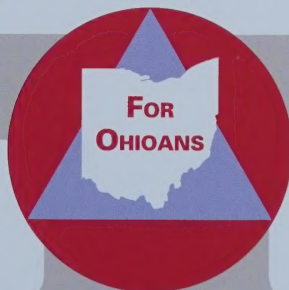
Brings Knowledge to Life. OSU Extension is an arm of Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, and a partner with the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. With offices in every county, OSU Extension delivers the knowledge of the university directly to you in your community.

OSU EXTENSION

Bettering lives, businesses, and communities through targeted county-based programming

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Creating the next great
workforce for Ohioans



OARDC

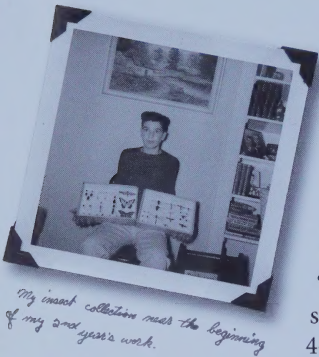
Discovering knowledge that boosts
Ohio's economy and expands the
scientific knowledge base

EXTENSION MAKES YOUR LIFE BETTER

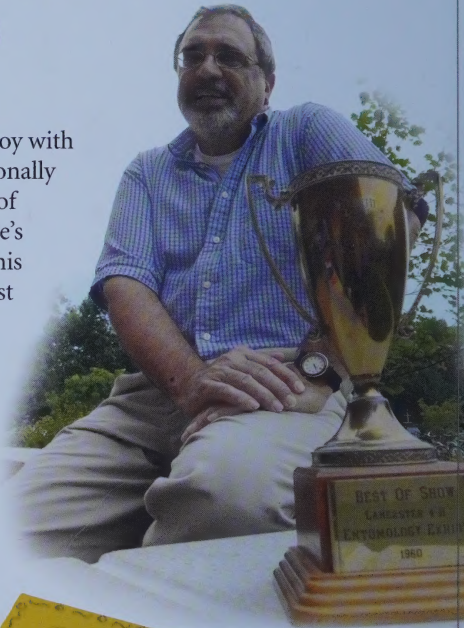
LEAD A BETTER, MORE PRODUCTIVE LIFE

4-H Builds Leaders

When Dave Denlinger joined 4-H, he was a boy with a fascination for bugs. Today he's an internationally recognized member of the National Academy of Sciences and recently retired chair of Ohio State's Department of Entomology. Denlinger credits his 4-H club, where he met an entomologist and first realized he could turn his hobby into a career. "From that point forward I had a focus ... and stayed with it. I feel like I owe a huge debt to 4-H," Denlinger said. About 300,000 young people participate in the Ohio 4-H program each year, gaining leadership and citizenship skills as they explore their "hobbies."

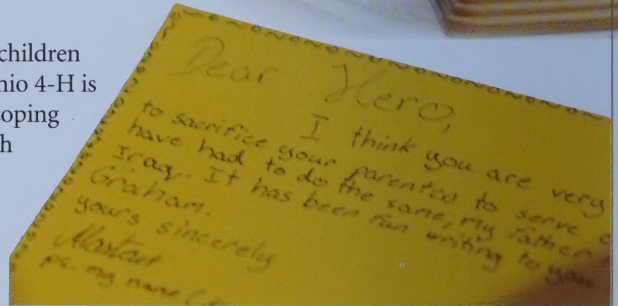


My insect collection marks the beginning of my 2nd year's work.



The Home Front: Military Kids Get Needed Support

When members of the military are deployed, their children face stresses few of their friends can understand. Ohio 4-H is reaching out with special camps, Hero Packs with coping strategies and items that help kids stay in touch with their parents, and a mobile technology lab to help children contact their deployed parents as well as other children in the same situation. One summer camp helped 150 10- to 15-year-olds deal with military-related challenges.



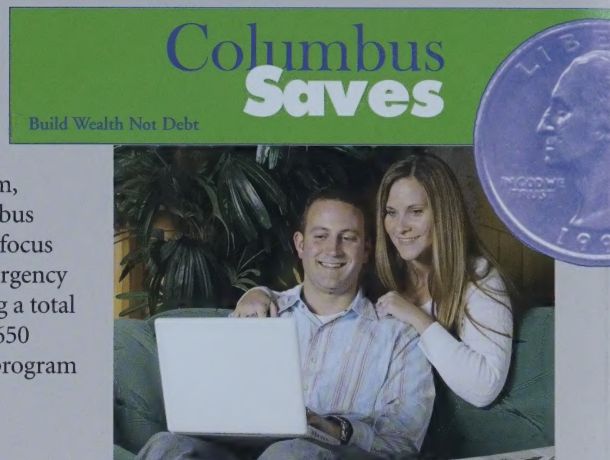
Weighty Concerns: Nutritionists Focus Efforts on Children, Latinos

Americans appear to be losing the battle of the bulge. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the percentage of obese American adults increased from 23 percent in 1988–1994 to 31 percent in 1999–2000. The percentage of children who are overweight has nearly tripled in the last 30 years. OSU Extension has taken aim at the problem with healthy weight management educational programs for all ages, including:

- Nutrition education for individuals and families. One program in Columbus focuses on the Spanish-speaking population to reduce dietary-related disease among Latinos. Hispanics are twice as likely to have diabetes as non-Hispanic whites.
- Afterschool care programs for youth include education on preventing weight gain and developing a healthful lifestyle. Already 1,900 youth have participated in the program.

Big Payoffs: Financial Education Programs a Sound Investment

With 88,416 non-business bankruptcies filed in 2004 in the Buckeye state, Ohioans clearly need help with finances. And OSU Extension is answering the call by implementing the "America Saves" program, helping people "Build Wealth, Not Debt." The Columbus Saves program, for example, includes 447 savers who focus on investments, retirement savings, and building emergency funds. As of August 2005, participants reported saving a total of \$38,838. Hancock County has reached more than 650 people, and plans are underway to build a statewide program for 2006.



OPERATE A BETTER, MORE PROFITABLE BUSINESS

Piketon Business Facility Gives Dreams Direction

The goal of boosting the economy and creating 300–400 new jobs in Appalachian Ohio is well on its way for the Piketon Endeavor Center Business Incubator and Training Facility. After less than a year in operation, the center is already over two-thirds full—a goal that planners expected to realize only after two years in operation.

Launched with \$4 million in local, state, and federal grants, the facility assists Appalachian Ohio business owners in expansion and helps jump-start new businesses through on-site training and office space. "The Endeavor Center provides us a place to pool our resources," said Butch Stall, business development manager for Innovative Solutions, a Minford, Ohio, engineering company. "Other businesses in the building pop across the hall to seek out our contracting services. We go to other businesses at the Endeavor Center for their services. The visibility and convenience is unmatched."



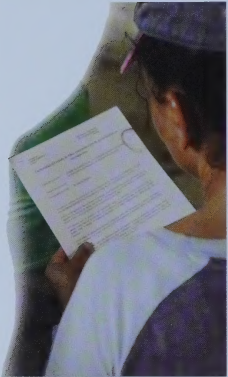
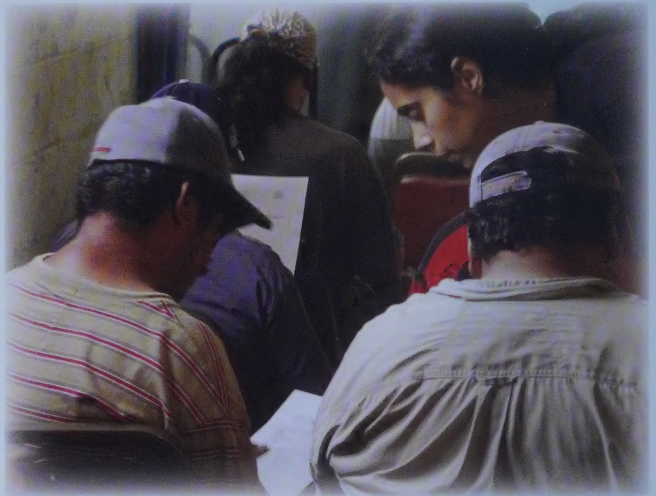
Outreach Helps Green Industry Bridge the Language Barrier

Latinos may be a minority in Ohio, but in the state's nursery and landscape industry—one of the fastest-growing sectors of Ohio agriculture with \$2.78 billion in sales—they are the overwhelming majority. Hispanics make up 65 percent of the workforce, but most speak little English and have limited access to training resources in

Spanish that meet their technical information needs.

Funded by OSU CARES, OSU Extension produced bilingual newsletters to provide workers with *ayuda técnica* (technical help).

The newsletters and other training materials—available at <http://hcs.osu.edu/basicgreenespanol>—have also reached workers across the country.



Standing Tall in the Face of Soybean Rust

Every big wind from the south brings with it the threat of soybean rust, an aggressive fungus identified in eight states in 2004. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that a soybean rust outbreak in the United States could cost anywhere from \$240 million to \$2 billion, depending on its severity. In Ohio, even a 20 percent yield loss would cost growers \$270 million.

OSU Extension experts are leaders in a nationwide effort to help farmers fight the disease, producing identification materials and monitoring 45 sentinel plots in Ohio.



BUILD BETTER, STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Waste Not: Enhancing Water Treatment Can Eliminate Pollutants

Ohio is flush with more than a million septic tanks and other on-site wastewater treatment systems, treating and releasing about 225 million gallons of effluent a day. Unfortunately, estimates of how many of these systems malfunction range anywhere from 25 to 85 percent, said Karen Mancl, water quality specialist with OSU Extension. Mancl is addressing the problem in a number of ways:

- She holds workshops on designing, building, and assessing on-site wastewater treatment systems.
- For local officials, she teaches a five-session course on wastewater treatment systems.
- In a newer line of research, Mancl is examining how on-site treatment systems used in rural areas might bolster urban sewer systems that experience overflows.



Emerald Ash Borer: Educating Officials, Industry, and the Public



Ohio is at war with an exotic insect that has invaded the state and will wipe out its valuable ash trees—10 percent of all Ohio trees—and cause dramatic environmental and economic damage to urban and rural areas alike if it's not stopped.

In the battle against the emerald ash borer (EAB), OSU Extension has taken the lead in providing non-biased, science-based information to government officials, resource managers, tree-care professionals, property owners, and the public regarding this beetle's threat to forests, municipalities, parks, and woodlots.

OSU Extension experts are educating local communities about this aggressive pest and the need to halt its spread. OSU Extension has also produced award-winning training materials to keep its educators and master gardeners informed; created an ID card distributed statewide and in other affected states; and organized workshops for landowners and other interested parties. In addition, two OSU Extension entomologists provide guidance to state officials.

More Good Jobs: New Jackson County Plan Creates Vision, Course of Action

With 16.5 percent of residents below the poverty line, the Jackson County Economic Development Board wanted to create more good jobs and did it by tapping the expertise of OSU Extension. The result was the Jackson County Economic Development Priorities Plan, released in January 2005, which presents a unified vision for the county; charts five-year goals, strategies, and indicators; and analyzes the retail market of four communities—Jackson, Wellston, Coalton, and Oak Hill. The communities now have a plan to follow in realizing their jobs goal.



OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

**With Extension offices located in every county,
Extension is always here for you!**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, OSU Extension

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